

# SOUTHERN WISCONSIN AWANA

## Thomas Tribune

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Tim & Sherry Thomas



### Ministry Update

Recently Sherry and I had to renew our Wisconsin drivers' licenses. Wow! Has it been four years already? It is hard to believe. It just doesn't seem possible.

We just finished up our "event" season which included a Teach Like Jesus in January and was followed by four sets of Bible quizzes in Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, and for the first time, in Janesville. These were followed by five sets of Sparks-a-Rama's and AwanaGames in each of the previous cities plus Baraboo. In there somewhere we also hosted our 4th annual 24/7 Expo. The Expo is a one day event for Jr. & Sr. high students that include: Bible quiz, AwanaGames, a fine arts competition, and college fair. In April we spent a week in St. Charles, IL for Summit; a four day national version of our Expo for high school students. While there we had to privilege of congratulating three Citation Award recipients from Wisconsin; Mr. Jacob Ward, Mr. David Cantwell, and Miss Sarah Calaway.

After a few weekends off, Tim will be at Awana HQ for a week in May for meetings and trainings. After the meetings at HQ we will be on the road for five Spring On Target Sessions. Right now we are preparing for Sparks Camp; (this year we are expecting over 175 children and chaperones) followed by a week at Camp Awana Honors Camp. After camp, Tim will spend a few days back in

Illinois working an Awana booth at the GARBC Annual Conference in Schaumburg. Is it any wonder that we are looking forward to a vacation in July?

### Loose Change

Last Wednesday Sherry and I were asked to speak for the Awards ceremony at Memorial Baptist Church in Verona. Unknown to us, three sixth grade girls had decided to raise money for the Awana missionaries to be given on the same night.

They put an empty jar out at the church and asked people to drop in their loose change. The goal - \$50. People responded with their change and soon, bills and even checks started appearing in the jar. When counting day came, the young ladies were surprised to see that they had not only met their goal, but exceeded it by 380%. On that night we were presented with a gift of \$240. Never underestimate the faith and determination of a child. Thank you Morgan, Dana, and Abby.



### Equipping the Saints for the Work of Ministry

Are you aware of all the great training and opportunities for spiritual growth that Awana offers to volunteers and ministry workers?

As your local Awana missionaries, we are committed to serving your church. One way we do this is by bringing the training to you so that your volunteers are equipped to evangelize and disciple the young people they influence.

We have recently added a new page to our website that includes a list of over 120 hours of training workshops, seminars, keynote messages, and sermons that we have available to bring directly to your church. We are also able to create training sessions customized to your church and your particular needs.

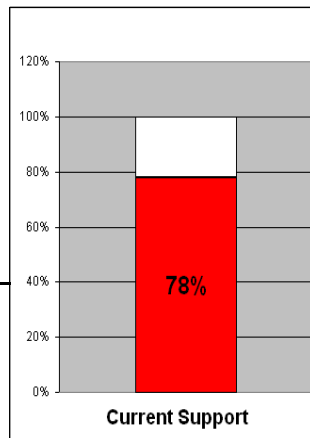
For more information and complete course descriptions please see our website. To schedule training, speaking engagements, or pulpit supply, please contact us.

### Current Support

Recently, we have seen our support level drop below 80% for the first in almost 3 years. We are thankful that in this economy it hasn't slipped more. In late November 2009 we launched a new campaign called **COUNT ME IN! FOR 2010**. As a part of this campaign we are looking for 20 individuals and 20 churches\* that will agree to become one of our ministry partners at a minimum of \$50 per month. If this were to happen we would be fully supported. We are so thankful for three families and one church that has answered this call. If you or your church are not currently a ministry partner please prayerfully consider it.

\*Only 35% of the churches in our area that use Awana support our ministry.

Our support comes from:  
26 Individuals  
40 Churches



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